



**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: LI et al. Docket: 372582-00201(337138)  
Serial No. 10/032,686 Examiner: VU, Quang D  
Filed: October 23, 2001 Art Unit: 2811  
For: **EXTERNAL POWER RING WITH MULTIPLE TAPINGS TO REDUCE  
IR DROP IN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT**

Mail Stop Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.115**

Sir,

Before examination on the merits of the claims in the above-referenced application, please amend this application as provided herein below.

This preliminary amendment is submitted concurrently with a request to amend the drawings and a response to the restriction requirement in the correspondence from the Examiner dated June 16, 2003, the period for response to which is extended by the petition for extension of time by two months.

RECEIVED  
SEP - 8 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800